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LOCAL WEATHER FORECAST. For the District of Columbia, Delaware, and Maryland, warmer; westerly winds, he coming variable, fair weather, warmer and fair Sunday.

Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 22, 1800.

THINGS MIGHT be equalized either by taking off the duty on quinine or by postting a duty on microbes.

THE CRITIC would like to ask Senafact that there are complaints about the tax assessments in the District of Co-

IT IS REPORTED from New York that in these last few days journd spring is not standing tip-toe to any great extent on the misty, mountain tops of the Catskills.

THE Boston Journal says that the Louisiana Lottery takes in \$25,000,000 a year and pays \$8,000,000 for prizes. Even a "brace" game of fare gives its victims a better chance than this.

A LONDON CORRESPONDENT Informs us that Herbert Spencer has spent his entire life in boarding-houses. This may explain how Mr. Spencer came to form the habit of analyzing every-

CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW's silence when Tom Platt was down was even more eloquent than his speeches are now that Tom is up. In the matter of patriotism Mr. Depew is a very cautious railroad manager.

IF YOU WILL care-Thermunesgiven fully examine the by you tend to show facts, you will find that the administrathe assessments you tion of our local afspeak of were not fairs has been very hastily or unwisely defective .- Mr. Warmade.-Mr. Warner ner by THE CRITIC. to The CRITIC.

Exco, when he advised his foolish duje to put money in his purse, probably didn't know about the beautiful system of tax assessments which provails in Washington, or he might have counseled him to put money into real cetate here and get into the swim.

THE FIRST legislative experiment of the State of Montana has not proved a conspicuous success. The legislative term has expired without the pasting of a single law during the whole session. And yet that Legislature succeeded in sending to Congress four socalled Senators elect.

To-DAY-THE ANNIVERSARY of the birthday of George Washington-New York is congratulating herself that the Memorial Arch Fund is increasing slowly, and it is announced that a concert is to be held to help it along. Public-spirited liberality does not appear to be indigenous in New York soil.

extradition treaty should have been limited in its scope by the Senate of the United States, especially in excluding from its operation the offense of obtaining money on false pretenses. The impression prevails there that, proportionately, this country will be much the greater sufferer in consequence.

CONGRESSMAN LEE of Virginia has added to the complications of the attempted Chesapeake and Ohio Canal settlement by introducing a resolution requiring the Attorney-General to ascertain and report the interest of the United States in that unfortunate enterprise. It seems that Georgetown and Alexandria originally held some canal stock which was afterward, for some reason, made over to the General Government, and it is this interest which General Lee desires to discover. The present outlook is in the direction of the consummation of a lease of the property to the Washington and Cumterland Railroad Company.

AGAINST THE ASSESSMENTS. The labor organizations of the District, forming a numerous, intelligent and influential body, have entered with natural promptitude and zeal. upon the examination and discussion of existing unjust assessments as exposed by THE CRITIC. The Painters' Assembly-"District Assembly 66"-of the Knights of Labor last night began a movement in opposition to the unjust system, which will be followed by action in all other local assemblies, the

sional investigation and redress. This class of citizens fully realize the discrimination which has been made against them in the matter of assessment and taxation, and they are determined to obtain their rights. They do not propose to submit tamely to the injustice of a system which makes the many poor pay the taxes of

object being to obtain early Congres-

MR. WARNER'S PLEA ON TAXES. Mr. B. H. Warner is a representative citizen of Washington. He has a wellenstained reputation as the possessor of more than the ordinary share of that prove the river front than not. admirable quality we describe as "pub-He spirit."

A man of public spirit is one who

Mr. Warner has, by his manifold acts plans they proposed. and enterprises, entrenched himself in popular esteem, and far from assailing him The Carrie is anxious to add new strength to his position. The man of public spirit is the local Deity deserving. above ail others, of worship, and to Mr. Warner and his kind, THE CHUTTO Intends always to do chaste reverence. But, at the same time, we may be in-

versally subject.

enspects that Mr. Warner has been, for improvement the moment betraved into an errant

plea for its continued enforcement is that it is wicked, and that, therefore, it should be secretly tolerated, because a disclosure of the truth would harm the material interests of the city. Mr. Warner should have taken counsel of his conscience and considered more fully the Christian creed upon which society and government are founded before pronouncing himself. "I said to your reporter," he writes in black ink and on white paper. 'that the picturing of frauds, either of a public or private character, was, in my opinion, damaging ter Ingalis if he is still ignorant of the | to our city, and should only be indulged in with the greatest caution,

We are to live Hes and bend the knee at the shrine of victous gods, then, that Washington may be exalted. We must close our eyes to corruption, that in sating our appetite for material things the sight of the dish may not revolt our Christian stomachs. Our ears must remain deaf to the cry of wrong, that we may revel in the vision of its helpless contribution to our satisfactions. Evil veiled shall be the symbol of our prosperity.

Well, The Cherry, for one, doesn't believe in this commercial doctrine. It thinks a trench in the public thoroughfare should be boarded up by day and lighted at night till filled. It sees in the exposure of fraud the earnest of correction, and it deems fraud of every sort a harm to the people among whom it flourishes. It is convinced that the scheme of taxation in the District is fraudulent, and is inclined to believe it a conspiracy of fraud. In the end, it can safely assert that it has only the best interests of the District at heart, in demanding the immediate action of the Commissioners and the co-operation of Congress in remedying the present abuses. And Mr. Warner should prove one of the most earnest and valuable helpers THE CHITIC hopes to enlist before it gets through with this fight.

THE RAILROAD PROBLEM.

This is really a problem requiring for its solution the gravest deliberation and the wisest judgment. Already Senator Ingalls has submitted a bill dealing with the matter which, when examined. will not be found satisfactory. Au'l now Senator Morrill has introduced a measure which is his contribution to the settlement of the question.

The difficulty of the railroad problem arises from the desire to find for the roads a way of entry into the city that shall be attended with as little injury to private property as possible and that shall be as convenient for the general public as may be found consistent with the least practicable interference with individual rights and privileges. Anyone who looks from the B & O.

denot over the tracks of the Metropolitan Branch will see at once how great an injury the occupation and use of these tracks are to what is rapidly beoming one of the most populous dispresent tracks, works serious injury to property-owners in South Washington and this road, in addition to its detrimental use of some miles of streets, is under the disadvantage of having incurred the indignant resentment of everyone who has pride in the city, because it has invaded the beautiful Mall -the delightful park which, stretching from the Capitol to the Monument, contains the Botanical Garden, Museum, Smithsonian Institution and Agricuttural Grounds-and has not only inyaded it, but has cut it in two, covering

a wide roadway with a network of tracks, and sending its intrusive and aggressive steam-engines into a public property which was intended to be a perpetual and unbroken possession of the people.

One great virtue of Senator Morrill's bill is that it provides for a union depot entirely outside of the Smithsonian grounds. It provides that the roads shall abandon and remove their present stations and erect either twin depots, side by side, or a great and adequate union depot, to occupy four squares, at the intersection of Maryland and Vir-

This arrangement is possibly not the best that could be had, but it is greatly preferable to that which now obtains. and it has the indestructible merit of removing the B. & P. depot from the Smithsonian grounds and of relieving Sixth street from the curse of the innumerable tracks which involve and inter-volve themselves there.

On full consideration of the matter it | not, he can resign with impunity. may be found that the railroad problem is really connected with our river front Improvement, and that the completion scheme which will bring the railroad to of unjust assessments were known and the water and establish a depot intended to accommodate land and water passengers as well as land and water

freights. In any case the subject should now be thought of, with a view to a final determination and location, and with a due regard for the city's real interest. Railroad occupation would rather im-

WORLD'S FAIR ORATORY

It is no disparagement of the ability leads movements for the promotion of and eloquence of the advocates of a communal interests and contributes World's Fair at New York, Chicago or generously of his means and energies. St. Louis to say that they were handltoward insuring the common happiness. capped by the inappropriateness of the

The event to be celebrated is the quadri-centennial of the discovery in 1402 of America by Columbus. It has been suggested that the United Statesthe leading nation on this continent- the draft of a new plan Mr. Webb should invite the other American studied the District laws, visited other nations, and those European countries cities, but he never reported his sugwhich were directly connected with the gestions as to amending the methods of discovery, to commemorate the event. shilged in voicing the interrogations. It has been further suggested that this and doubts to which Delties are uni- commemoration should take the form up a bill providing for a permanent of an Exposition, which should es- Board of Assessors, whose continuous As public spirit is mutably expressed | pecially illustrate the progress and at- | and congruous work would, it was be-

path, where there is danger of wasting or St. Lauis would go far to rob the ocboth his power and disposition to do casion of its national character and trict Commissioners, who did not apgood; for in holding to the views on the significance. It will occur to any legitax wrongs he expressed in yesterday's | cal mind that if Congress is to author-Critic it may be reasonable presumed lize a celebration at all, it will do so bethat neither his sympathies nor efforts cause it should be regarded as a naare to be easily secured in behalf of re | tienal occurrence with which Congress can properly deal. When Congress Mr. Warner cannot deny the injustice does so authorize, while it certainly of the present system. His strongest, might be an invidious task to choose between the commercial cities men tioned, the true, natural and appropri ate site for the great National Exposition will be readily found to be here at the National Capital.

The advocates of Washington, therefore, bad the advantage of being on the not be permitted to be dwarfed to the municipal observance. It must be national in intent and scope, held by and under the control of the National Government and located at the National

____ CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

THE CHITTE has no sympathy with the hostility which occasionally, here and there, is expressed in regard to the civil service reform plan. It does not believe that the present law is perfect or that the rules and regulations which have been promulgated under it are, at all points, model expressions of human wisdom. It does not know even that its administration has always been

wisely or impartially directed. But beyond doubt the principle of the civil service reform is correct. It recognizes merit as the sole ground for admission to the public service. It re-Heves Congressmen from undue Importunity. It reduces the chances for office bartering and traffic, and it secures efficiency in the service,

A successful civil service system onght to include among its provisions the permanency in office of Government employes. In the main the clerks of long experience are the best clerks. and it stands to reason that a man, otherwise duly qualified, who has mastered the details of his daily official routine, continues to be better equipped for the service in which he is employed than a novice possibly could be.

Besides, the city of Washington has a very direct and intimate interest in this question of permanency. The conployes of the Government, of one grade or snother, or of all grades taken to gether, constitute the backbone and most important ingredient of the city's population. They invest in city lots and build themselves homes. They rear honest families. They value the newspaper, the school-house and the Church Sometimes they have the only really money that is going and they constitute a very important element in sustaining all departments of the retail trade.

The best interests of Washington will be best secured by the perfection of a civil service in which there shall be efficiency in the performance of official duty and an assured permanence in oc-

CLARKSON AND HUSTON.

Messrs. Clarkson and Huston have each tendered his denial of the reports that he would tender his resignation. CANADIANS EXPRESS surprise that the | tricts in the city. In like manner the | folly to speak of them as the invenentrance of the B. & P. Railroad, on its tions of the enemy, meaning thereby some wicked Democrat.

There is no talk about the resignations Secretary Noble or Secretary Miller. Why? Because these gentlemen do not themselves talk about resigning. The only reasonable way to account for the reports concerning the resignations of Messrs, Clarkson and Huston is that they have talked, and talked freely, of resigning.

As a matter of fact they have talked of resigning both freely and frequently. It has been among their friends, it is true. But some one has been indiscreet in each case.

Another view of the matter is this: Gentlemen in office, who are so disgruntled with the Administration that they abuse it in private, should resign. Gentlemen in office who habitually speak of their chief, and he the Chief Magistrate, in terms of contempt, should resign.

Treasurer Huston's friends now admit that he has talked of resigning. not immediately, but about the 1st of May next. Very good. The convention to nominate a candidate for Congress in the Sixth Indiana district, in which Mr. Huston resides, is to be held on the 23d day of April. If he should resign now and go into the fight he would be regarded as an anti-Administration candidate. The Administration would, in that case, take good care that, whoever was nominated, it should not be Mr. Huston. "About the 1st of May" carries him beyond the convention, and whether nominated or

WHAT DOES MR. WEBB MEAN! The inequality of District taxation is of Washington's harbor will include a no new discovery. In 1887 the abuses there was then a strong agitation for

redress. The District Assessor of that time stated the situation with great clearness. He took a list of 250 pieces of property of all kinds, and in regard to them compared their recorded assessed value with a two-thirds valuation of the same lots for loaning purposes by a building association. The assessed value was \$389,397, and the valuation of the association was \$685,498-not far from double.

In the spring of that year the District Commissioners, either yielding to the demands of the people for au amended system or sympathizing with those demands, appointed Commissloper Webb to investigate existing District assessment laws, to inform himself as to the modes adopted in other cities, and to report to the Board

Meanwhile the District assessors draw

by human conduct, it may suffer from | triuments of American industry and act, | lieved, ultimately do away with unmisguidance. Tun Carry sincerely beside showing the world's general equal assessments and put an end to unjust taxation. It was introduced in The selection of New York, Chicago the House, referred to the District Committee, and by that referred to the Disprove, so strangling the measure at its

The apathy of the Commissioners of that time is hard to comprehend. They had put themslyes on record as agreeing that "the method of assessment is in every way unsuitable," and they had promised to formulate legislation which would remedy existing evils. For some reason their reform zeal suddenly cooled, and they did nothing to change the system.

About that time the rich and influential property-holders of the Distric were successfully exerting themselves right side and it is tittle wonder that | to get low valuations of their property their eloquence was persuasive. If on the assessment rolls, Many sucthere is to be a celebration at all, it can ceeded in getting assessed for one-fifth the actual value. These wealthy and limits and insignificance of a mere | favored citizens did not in any measure sympathize with the popular demand for reform in the assessment system. They wanted no change. The law suited them well enough as it stood. What was the connection between the satisfaction of the rich but undervalued taxpayers and the sudden paralysis of the assessment reforming Commission-

Thus, the iniquitous system still remains. Mr. Webb now admits that, to use his own words, it is "faulty and inadequate," but he hardly believes that "an adequate assessment law can be got from Congress." What is the insurmountable obstacle in the way of obtaining a just assessment law? What is the real nature of the Ethiopian in this particular wood pile? What is the influence which Mr. Webb seems to think is as potent with Congressmen as with Commissioners?

IMPROMPTU SPEECH-MAKING. Ex-Secretary Boutwell, in his paper concerning impromptu speech-making, shows there is no such thing. He illustrates by quoting the well-known fact that Webster, the greatest of Amer ican orators, and perhaps the greatest orator since Demosthenes' thundered against Philip, only spoke after ample and complete preparation. He went into a contest, like his memorable debate with Hayne, as an athlete. Every point of his argument, the phrasing of his sentences, the very words used, had been previously arranged.

Of course, on a subject with which a speaker is entirely familiar, he can at any moment make a creditable effort but to be thorough, to satisfy himself requires preparation.

The influence of the orator is Imm diate, instantaneous, There is sense of personal triumph lacking to the writer. For Instance, when the greenback fight was being made in the West some years ago, General Tom Ewing was the leader of the greenbackers within the ranks of the Democratic party. A State Convention was holding. The platform had been reported contrary to the views of Ewing and his friends. The General arose and addressed the convention. It may not have been an extemporaneous effort. and probably was not, but it seemed to be. It carried the convention off its feet and onto his platform. He was nominated but defeated, as that was one of the years the Republicans had a re-He has since kept out of publi life, but in that convention that day he had a rare opportunity and he met it splendidly.

THE NIGHT CLERK of a Hoboken, N. J. hotel was kept awake all night recently by a woman who insisted on praying for his soul. She wouldn't leave, but staid and prayed. A policeman falled to eject her, and she prayed on. When the proprietor came down in the morning he found a woman praying, with his clerk rushing up and down the office, alternately begging er to desist, and swearing because sh didn't. The woman had the advantage because she could pray in three languages, English, German and Swedish, while the derk could swear in only one. The woman told the proprietor that the Lord had commanded her to pray for the clerk's soul all night, and she had done so. After much persuasion she was induced to go off. Night clerk's of Hoboken hotels now sleep in the office safe.

A JAPANESE TRADITION says that a treasare in gold bars worth \$800,000 was buried somewhere within the inclosure of the Castle of Yuki Harutomo. Last May excavations were begun and the workmen cached pieces of boxes covered with plate ron and other indications of success. Here the story breaks off without even a "to be continued in our next." It is aggravating.

WHILE PETER JACKSON is in town if night be well for the people of Washington to engage him to go to the Capitol and pound the idea into Senator Ingalls' head that there really is something rotten in the ax assessments of the District of Columbia

SPEAKER HUSTED of the New York As sembly calls Chauncey M. Depew "A new Trinity," which consists of "Discoverer, Wizard and Magician." A little of this will go a long way toward making Mr. Depew ridiculous.

Now that there is no special attraction for American cashlers in Canada the plain, ordinary bank robber, with the mask and pistol, will stand some chance. Thus do we go on protecting our struggling home

ightened by a black cloud which passed over the city yesterday. As Petersburg is in the "black belt," one wouldn't suppose they'd been scared at a little thing like

IT WAS REALLY Very cruel for a Chicago ourt to prove Thomas Kavanaugh funo cent of jury-bribing just as that gentleman was frying to establish a good social stand-WE THUST THIS COUNTRY Will treat the

old soldier liberally in the matter of penion. It may become hard up some day and want to borrow a few millions from THEY SAY THAT Mahome looks years older han he did a few months ago .- Are York

He looks older and he is wiser IF WE ARE TO HAVE A bankruptcy bill at

all, we want none but the best. Make it as Toney as possible, please. THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY for the Southern Florida district is but a Stripling.

THE LEGISLATIVE ORIP Is convalencent verywhere now, save in Montana. Mn. Kuloone would kill the fair.

THE SOUTH-BOUND TRAIN.

It was 9 o'clock, and Mabel Clairs, the protty young telegraph operator, sat at the instrument, her hand on the key, waiting to send the last message before quitting the thee for the night

Mabel was very seldom detained as late, at an exeursion train had gone down the but an excursion train had gone down the road that morning, and was now waiting at Ewing's, below the turnout, till it received the signal that the way was clear. The south-bound express was doe in twenty minutes. When that passed Mabel would signal the excursionists to come on.

It was a responsible and confining position for one so young and inexperienced, and Mabel, during the ten mouths she held the place, had mixed berself bright and

the place, had proved herself bright and efficient, and not the slightest accident due to neglect on her part had over occurred. Now she kept looking at the clock, think-ing the hands had never moved so slowly efore. She was weary, sitting in the less little office all the long, hot hours of that summer day, and she wished for the train. Besides, there was some one on the train she wanted particularly to see. "Frank will be on the lookout for ms,"

"Frank will be on the hooself for he, she said, "and will wave his hand—perhaps hiss it in the darkness."

The thought made her soule and blush. She hardly knew whether to be glad or corry at young Frank. Ray's recent promotion to the responsible post of engineer on the south-bound. Every other day she saw him, but for two seconds, as the train whitzed by, the south-bound accor stopped

at the insignificant little station of Rel-

ding.

They had been engaged a long time, and now this promotion of the young man enabled them to see in the near future the consummation of their hopes.

At 9:50 the station-master would come in and the office would close for the night. How still everything was. It had never seemed so lonesome before. It was a quiet, peaceful fittle station in among the Bald hills, as they were called; and, though lls, as they were called; and, though often feeling the loneliness of the position,
Mabel had never had the least fear.
Mabel at last stopend looking at the
clock, and, with her finger tilly moving at
the key, became lost in one of those rosy
dreams which youth, especially when in
love, is urene to.

ove, is prone to.

Not a sound broke the silence of the summer night but the rustle of a leaf in the breeze or the distant call of the whip-

Presently a slight noise behind her made the girl start and look around. There, just within the door, stood a tall, gaunt man, with wild, bloodshot eyes, long matted ments, glaring wildly at her.

The scream froze upon Mabel's lips, and the blood seemed to congcal in her veins. Before she could utter a sound the apparibeard and bair, and torn, disordered gar

Before she could utter a sound the apparition, without moving his eyes from her
face, advanced toward her.

"Sit still," he commanded, as Mabel attempted to rise." Move at your peril, utter
a sound, and these hands will choke the
breath out of you."

And he extended long, horny-tipped
talons, which looked as if they could well
exceptle such a threat

eatons, which rooked as it they could well execute such a threat.

Paralyzed with fright, Mabel did not stir, out gazed with terrified fascination at the utruder. He drew up a chair close to bers, and in front of the instrument. "Move your hand, girll" he said. "I shall manage this instrument to-night. It is a long time since I felt the key, but my right hand has not forgotten any of its cunning. No, nor my ear its quickness." And his bony fingers commenced to ma-

All at once Mabel realized that she was in the presence of a madman, and personal fear was for the moment swallowed up in the still greater terror of the mischief which would be wrought by his control of the firstrument. She withdrew her hand and found voice the exposition. and found voice to expostulate. "Do not touch the key, I entreat you said. "It is not time yet to signal

Ewing's, and if a wrong message were se a fearful collision might ensue." The maniac laughed delightedly. "Hurrah!" he cried, ""Tis the very thing I want to see! A grand, glorious sight, girl, to see those from beasts lock horns, girl, to see those from beasts lock norms, pawing and tearing up the earth, bellowing forth smoke and fire; see them rush through these long trains, scalding, bursing, smashing the silly, simple folks that trusted in them. Hurrah! what a holocaust we'll witness! What rivers of blood will flow!" His eyes glared at Mabel's with the excession of a demon's and his burs white.

pression of a demon's, and his large white teeth gleamed through his matted mus-The poor girl almost fainted as he drew

the harrid picture.

"But he will not know how to call the station," she said to herself; "they will not head him." He turned to her with sudden intelligence. "What is Ewing's califf he asked, "and your signature? Quick—give it to me

quick."
A gleam of hope flashed over Mabel.
"Ewing's is 'Z.'" she said, at random,
"and I sign 'T. P.'"
But even as she spoke she saw the madman reading the station calls, which she
had forgotten hung right over the instrument.

"Do you dare to tell me a lie?" he cried.
"The call is 'B." and Redding's is 'S.'"
and calling up the station he quickly
clicked off the message. "Come on, come on, the track is clear," he cried, as he ticked the words.

He had cuming enough to stop there.
Mabel glanced at the clock. The message had been sent ten minutes too soon. Oh! if they would only suspect something, and beg to have it repeated; but no—the answer The train had left the turnout now, and

if the south-bound was on time a disaster of some sort was inevitable. Oh, if she could only rush out and call some one, or give one loud shriek! Oh, why did not the stationmaster drop in: At her least movement the maniac, like the sacient mariner, fixed her with his glittering eye, and she became cold and rigid as stone, and could only dumbly pray. But stealthly, each time he turned away those fearful eyes, she moved her chair slightly, getting more to his back and near the door. Once outside the door, she might her berref in the darkness while might less herself in the darkness while

For the train must be warned. Oh, he cus! some one must be found, and quickly, quickly, to fly up the track, and with waving lantern stop the engine from rushing to

And who was on that engine? Oh, God! she had actually forgotten till that moment, so benumbed with a general feeling of horror were all her faculties.

Suddenly her acute car caught the low rumble in the distance. The madman's was countly keen.

equally keen.

"They're coming!" he shouted. "They're coming! Come on! Come on! On to the grand battle of the iron steeds! Hurrah! Hurrah!"

And as he spoke the key clicked out the words. His eyes were turned away; his carbent to his instrument. Swifter than the wind, sudden as the lightning stroke, Mabel darted out the door. She did not run toward the station house to seek help, but straight up the railroad track she flew, right in the direction of the incoming train. She did not cry aloud; that would attract the madman telegrabit on through the darkness white her; but on through the darkness, white, breathless, trembling in every nerve, she field like a young deer; and as she ran she tore, with frantic bands, breadth after breadth of the light summer dress she

It is so dark they will not be able to see me till they are nearly on me," she thought; "not till I get in the blaze of the headlight, But if only they do see me in time. Oh, Frank, Frank, look out for me."

Round a curve a couple of hundred yards away, the light of the bull's eye streamed. It seemed horrible, the frail girl rushing on so desperately to meet this flery-eyed monster. But on, on she flew, waving above her head the torn white dress.

her head the torn white dress.

Once she glanced behind. Gracious heaveans! In the dim light she saw a tall, gigantic figure pushing her with glant unas against type.

strides.
"I am lost?" she mouned. "But, oh! let the train be saved, let Frank be saved, and I am willing to die."
She stands still in the middle of the track. as the giare of the headlight strikes her, en-veloping girl and waving banner in a lurid Frank has seen her. A shrill whistle to

frame has seen her. A shrill whistle to down brakes wakes the mountain echoes. The watchful engineer, with his hand upon the throttle and his head leaning far out, motions franctically to the girl to leave the track. She turns to down. They have seen her. They are saved—they are soved!

Thank God!

But we have the control of the contr

der the engine, saturating the white dress, forming a rivulet by the side of the road. Strong men turned sick. Frank's brain reeled. "Back the engine" he called wildly; "Back the engine." he called whidly, then staggered up to obey his own order.

Slowly the wheels made two revolutions, and again the engineer leaped down where his victims lay. The man had fallen nearest the engine. A wheel had passed over him. He was quite dead and horribly manifed.

gled.
Mabel—was she dead? Was she injured! The young engineer seized her with trem-bling hands, while his heart stood still. "She breathes! She is not dead!" he cried, as, kneeling on the track, he clasped the blood-stained form to his bosom. "Some

water! Quick!"

And as in a twinkling the water was brought, he bathed her face and held it to her lips. With a low mean of pain, Mabel opened her eyes. The strange faces around, the lurid light from the engine, her own bloody garments, would have sent her back to un-

usclousness, but the loved face bending anxiously over her called her back to "Are you burt, my darling?" asked the agonized lover. "Oh, God! to thick I came so near killing you!" "My arm, Frank. I think it is broken; but, oh, you are saved! You all are saved, thank God!" looking around at the crowd

"My little herolue," murmured Frank; and taking her in his arms he carried her into the sleeping car.

The remains of the poor madman were gathered up and cared for, and the track being cleared of its horrible obstruction, the train proceeded to the station, where the excursion train, just arrived, had been

the excursion train, just arrived, had been stopped.

The unfortunate man was recognized as a lunatic who had escaped some days before from a neighboring asylum. He had once been an expert telegrapher, and it was thought that over application and an unusually responsible and confining position had unsettled his mind.

"Mabel, you shall quit the business from this time forth forevermore," said Frank when this man's history had been told them. "It might produce the same effect upon you, and I don't want a lunatic for a wife."

And Mabel—poor, wounded, unnerved.

And Mabel—poor, wounded, unnerved little thing—readily promised.

At the wedding, which took place as soon as Mabel could take her arm out of a sling, the young couple were made happy by a check for \$5,000, presented by the directors of the road; also a remembrance from the of the road; also a remembrance from the passengers on the south-bound train that ever-memorable night,—*Ecchange*.

PONDEROUS THOUGHTS.

A staring headline in a New York pap conveys the sad intelligence that "Mrs. Cleveland Subscribes to the Fair Fiend" What does she do that for !

This modern Jackson is known to his colored friends as "Ole Lickory." It is expected by the multitude of admirers of Susan B. Anthony that she will

now stand straight up, away from her corner, and let Marietta Bones try to knock her out in four rounds. Time! Bones! If Senator Blair thinks our esteemed contemporary, the Congressional Record, ought to have a wider circulation, why does

does he speak for five days? Now winter, to show that it still is alive. Will begin to get ready to co arrive.

conduct himself in this manner?

The Hon, Flower of New York should not yield to the Hon. Quinn of New York nee Ireland) very often. He yielded on Thursday on the World's Fair question True to the green island of his birth, Hon. Mr. Quinn remarked of New York, "surrounded as it is with thousands of large and costly buildings, filled with tens upon tens of thousands of the very best classes of our citizens-the bone and sinew of our land-truly might it be said that the eye of man never gazed upon seeuery more fair than this!" Bones, sinews and buildings are fine scenery, sure. He said that "the capacity of her hotels are unlimited," and that visitors to our shores "will stand appalled at the glory of our Repub-He." Quinn added from the bosom of his own brain this precious bit:

"Columbia's sons, let them be near or far Confess New York the first in peace of And by the mighty Hudson, only there,

Most fitting place to hold a world's fair.

Chicago, giant of the glorious West-St. Louis, Washington, calm now your troubled breast, Proclaim your country's glory everywhere. New York the only place to hold a world's

It is understood that Mr. Flower privately claims that he felt the divine flatulence which produces this flower of fancy. But It bears the foot-prints of Quinn's ear-

This evening George Washington's beloved ghost will appear and spend the hour from nine to ten at not less than four hundred spiritual seances in this country and Europe. This is very lively getting around for a ghost that is 158 years old.

I am proud to add that whenever Con gress declines to hear Representative Neidringhaus, he will contribute it to this

The bill for paying "over time" To all who've worked the last ten year Within the District is sublime For its impudence, and there never was a better chance for demagogues to get

present Congress, as far as it appears. "Humble Inquirer" - Alaska was originally named by the Indians "L. S. Ka," "Ka" being the Russian termination and .. S., of course, the place of the seal,

in their habitual work than in the

"The Pope has had another chill" is the bad news which the cable brought last week. And now all the patent-outside papers of Iowa are announcing that "the bas had another child." The Holy Father is more or less justified in his auath-

It makes the poor man poorer still,

It makes the rich man richer, It robs, to fill the city's till. The delver and the ditcher It makes the plain mechanic feel The heel of the oppressor-The tricky method we reveal

Of Washington's Assessor

The gentlemen who are moving to secure a bronze statue of Frederick Douglass are premature. It is well known to be the But, as she turns, a grip like a hon's claw infention of our emancipated Fritz to descizes her arm; she siruggles madiy to vise and bequeath his mortal frame to this

wrench berself free, or to drag her captor with her off the track. Her foot stumbles against the iron rail and both man and girl fall prostrate before the advancing engine.

As though the infernal regions had opened to engulf them, a glare, a scorching heat, a rush of escaping steam, one thrill of keenest pain, and Mabel knew no more.

Before the engine had fairly stopped Frank Ray was on the ground. He had recognized Mabel, and seen her fail in the grasp of the firee-looking man.

Springing from the engine he dashed up to her as the pilot passed over the white, huddled heap. A shrick that might have waked the dead burst from his pallid lips. "I have nurdered her!" he mouned. And with frantic efforts he seized her white dress. It was wedged in the wheels. All was darkness and confusion.

The men brought their lanterns. Then they saw streams of blood flowing from under the engine, saturating the white dress, forming a rivulet by the sele of the road.

The nen brought the ide of the road to the name of the Congressman who

to the name of the Congressman who ordered a vast flight of black steps for the front of our white marble Capitol, and whether he owned a slate quarry that was suffering from manition? "LI. S. S. EVANS."

I do not know. It was probably not the work of corruptionists, but merely of persons who did not know any better. are a great many specimens of that variety of statesmen still living. What Congress ought now to do is to paint the front rise the steps white. Slate will take and hold paint well, especially when sheltered. and a good coat of white palut every year would make the middle of the Capitol look like the wings. And perhaps the same Congressman who selected the state owns a

To the inquiries after the Six o'Clock Club-I am told that there will be the usual entertaining installment of grub and gab

"It may still be said that Susan B, Anthony is very good-looking for a woman." So remarks the egotist of the Philadelchia Prezs. I shall not contest the assertion. The ancient maiden is not very goodlooking for a man. If she had been she would have found one ere this.

GRANDMOTHER'S TURKEY-TAIL FAN

It owned not the color that vanity dons, Or slender wits choose for display; Its beautiful tint was a delicate bronze, A brown softly blended with gray. From her waist to her chin, spreading out

without break,

'Twas built on a generous plan; The pride of the forest was slaughtered to make My grandmother's turkey-tall fan. For common occasions it never was meant;

In a chest between two silken cloths

Twas kept safely hidden with careful in tent In camphor to keep out the moths. Twas famed far and wide through the whole country-side,

From Reersbebs e'en unto Dan; And often at meeting with envy 'twas eyed, My grandmother's turkey-tail fan. amp-meetings, indeed, were its chiefest

delight, Like a crook unto sheep gone astray t beckoned backsliders to re-seek the right. And exhorted the sinners to pray.

Psulmody leading the van. Old Hundred, I know, was its favorite My grandmother's turkey-tall fan.

t always beat time when the choir went

A fig for the fans that are made now-a-days, Suited only to frivolous mirth! A different thing was the fan that I praise, Yet it scorned not the good things of earth.

At bees and at quiltings 'twas age to be seen: The best of the gossip began When in at the doorway had entered serene My grandmother's turkey-tail fan.

Tradition relates of it wonderful tales. Its handle of leather was buff, Though shorn of its glory, e'en now it ex-

An odor of hymn-books and snuff. Its primeval grace, if you like, you can trace: 'Twas limned for the future to scan, Just under a smiling gold-spectacled face,

My grandmother's turkey-tail fan. - Samuel Minturn Peck, SOMETHING SHOULD BE DONE. Editor Critic: Allow me to commend THE CRITIC upon the stand it has taken in regard to the District methods of taxation. There has been much complaint, and for a ong time. Something should speedily be done, as you say, in equity to a large class of small tax payers, who justly feel that they have been discriminated against. I like your vigorous style and determination to have these matters promptly and prop-erly attended to. Please have the paper

erly attended to. 4ent to my address. WASHINGTON TOPHAM. cured apartments, at the Harris Housellast

THE GRIEF OF BIG HEAD. Big Head, one of the leading chieftains of the Sloux, has made a desperate attempt at Siouxcide. He hung himself to a tree, and was nearly strangled to death before cut down. It is said that no Sioux Indian was ever before known to attempt to take his own life. Some time ago hig Head went to Washington and called on President Barrison. From that day he was no longer himself. He became suller and melancholy. After his return to the agency at Standing Rock he sank into a despondency from which nothing could arouse him. He re-fused to answer to the name of Big Head, and cursed the men who had persuaded him to go to Washington. Since his recent rash act he has been still more dispirited, and a close watch upon his movements is required

to prevent a more successful attempt upon his life.—Chicago Herald. BEST WORLD'S FAIR SITE An esteemed French gentleman who has adopted our own glorious Republic as his abiding place honors THE CRITIC

extion: Most Excellent Editors of the Washing-Critic Please tell to the People which is the very Best World's Fair site and how to do it Most Fairly Right here and in all states Which is the very Best World's Fair Site

with the following patriotic communi-

answer This only District of Columbia is the very Best in every respect. For all great good reasons to celebrate and commemorate Most Honorably and Fairly the 400th aniversery of this very great Most important Discovery our Great Country inside of which the Greatest of all the Goveruments on Earth is Established. But I may not Be Large enough to hold all the peoples now living upon this earth For that and others important reasons Congress should immediately recognize the rights of Everys State to partake in this Most Grand Celebration by having in each State Branchs Fair partaking of the same benefit to the Main World's Fair equaly in proportion to the subscription of theirs Citizen which would give to Each State a Quadro Ceutenial Memorial Exposition Buildings to become perimenent Museums Most Commemorative in the reach of all peoples Erect ed Free By the General Government which should immediately pass so act or resolution promising that Best Fair belp equally advantageous to all and surly paying For all the same in proportion to theirs subscrip tions so that that United Greatest Most Extraordinary attractive World's Fair be FRANCOIS EMILE. successint. Washington, D. C., Feb. 20, 1890.

POPULAR MEN IN TOWN

The rival claimants for the World's Fair site—New York, Chiengo and St. Louis—continue to add to their delegations in this city, where, from all indications, the greatfair will probably be held. The new arrivals last night filled up nearly all the hotels and at midnight there was very little room to spare. New York sent its quota of meu, who are here to do all in their po wer to secure the site for the city they represent. Channey M. Depow, the infinitable leader of this delegation, is at the Arington. He looked tired and weary when he entered the hotel last night, but the same genial smile that his male so many friends for him overspread his face and he joked with the clerk in his usual happy manner. De Wolf Hopper, who had just got back from the theatre, was glad to see Mr. Depew. He ared off one of his jokes at the latter, and the learned doctor hurried upstairs and refired. Hopper did not know whether he went away to laugh at the joke in the seclusion of his room or whether it was him stems. He is still wondering. afte-New York, Chicago and St. Louisin the scalusion of his room or whether it made him sleepy. He is still wondering.

Another of the New York delegation at the hotel is William C. Whitney, ex-Score tary of the Navy. Mr. Whitney has not changed his style of wearing his eye-glassest they are held loosely on the bridge of his nose and shake so as he walks as to give an observer the impression that they are always about to fall off. These glasses have always about to fall off. These glasses have been giving people this impression for years, but they persist in holding on tightly to his nose and Mr. Whitney is nappy; but if he only knew how nervous his style of wearing his glasses has made many people he would fasten them more firmly to his masal organ. Although he cannot see the World's Fair in New York through these glasses, no matter how hard he may try, he is here to help battle for the site for that city.

John H. Starip, who is also here to boom Gotham's claim for the fair, occupies a suite of apartments in the Arlington close to Mr. Whitney's rooms. The holding of the fair in New York will be of immense benefit to him individually. He has almost a monopoly of river and harbor transportation about New York, and, besides owning several lines of steamers running into New York, is much interested in railroads, and is the owner of Glen island, a popular summer resort on the Long Island Sound, near New York. Mr. Starin is a very quiet, modest man, but he is a great thinker, and is one of the staunchest Republicaus in New York State. He seldom falls in anything he undertakes, but his efforts to secure the fair for New York will probably be as useless as was his attempt to keep oronchos at Glen Island. He only had a few of these animals, but they were vicious, and after they had thrown half a dozen excursionists he got rid of them. Gotham's claim for the fair, occupies a

Another very well-known New Yorker is at the Arno. He is Thomas F. Gilroy, Gotham's Commissioner of Public Works, and he is the biggest and most inducatial brave in Tammany Hall next to Richard Croker. In fact Mr. Gilroy is called the brains of Tammany Hall. His presence here has nothing to do with the World's Fair. He is simply here to get points from our macadamized streets, to use in repaying many of New York's badly-payed streets. He said has night that he intended to lay down fifteen miles of macadamized. to lay down fifteen miles of macadamized payement in the streets of New York during the coming summer. Mr. Gilroy is accompanied by Stevenson Towle, the chief engineer of his department.

Mr. B. B. Shaw, president of the American Lean and Trust Company of Chicago, is at the Normandle. Probably no one in is at the Normandie. Probably no one in this country is more interested in the seal fisheries than be is. He is a member of a company organized to bid for the valuable privilege of catching those warm-nated animals, and is prepared to offer a 2001 deal of money for it.

The president of this company, which is composed of New York and Chicago business men, is at the Riggs House. Heury L. Turner is the name he bears, and he is a business man through and through. Stur-

business man through and through. Star-dily built, and with a pair of keen, intelli-gent eyes, he looks like a man who is not easily defeated. Mr. J. J. Esty, the well-known piano and

organ manufacturer of Brattleboro', Ver-

mont, is at the Riggs House. He makes

this city his headquarters during the spring and makes weekly visits to the surrounding cities. The brave communder of the warship Trenton, which was wrecked at Samoa during the terrible storm that caused such a terrible loss of life about that island la year, is at the Ebblit House. The name b

bears, L. A. Kimberiy, will always be asso-ciated with his brave action on board the Trenton. He is a modest-looking man, and is the ideal of a gentlemanly sea captain. The Hop, H. M. Wisler of Hutchinson Kansas, is one of the new arrivals at the Ebbitt House. He is a member of the Kansas Legislature, and is rated as one of the best lawyers in the State. His busines here is in connection with political matter relating to his State.

Willard's has among its guests Warren Leland, the proprietor of Leland's Hotel in Chicago. He is here in the interest of that city's claim for the World's Fair, and is going to help that city's committee all he George Brutherton of Philadelphia se-

hi. Mr. Brutherton is the manager of Little Tycoon Company, which is now on the road. Mr. R. Stone of Chicago is at the Na tional. He is an internal revenue collector in that city, and although he was one of Cleveland's appointments he continues to hold office—his friends say because he is u

good fellow. Mr. W. S. Corkin, the well-known busi ness man of East Saginaw, Mich , is at the National. He was formerly in the dredg-ing business and did a good deal of work for the Government. He is now by the

lumber business. LATE ARRIVALS. Williams J. P. Hubbard, F. A. Myrick, J. W. Doblen, D. F. Butler, C. A. Redfern, New York; W. C. Reer's, Bay-onne, N. J.

THE ARLINGTON-A. W. Fletcher, New

York; Wilber Parker, Cleveland, O.; S. C. Keys, New York; Rufus Griggs, Brooklyn. Rigos House-William Vall, Brooklyn; W. D. Gawson, New York; Henry Suiton, New Haven, Conn.; S. M. Thomas, Taun-York; Henry C. Louglin, Philadelphia; N. G. Caine, Somerset, Pa.

METROPOLITAN—William Clark, Louis-ville, Ky.; F. A. Elmot, Pittsburg, Pa.; S. Penorer, New York; A. S. New, Evanstou, Wyo.

National—E. H. Garvin, Millwood,
Va.; E. B. Entwisle, Johnson, Pa.; A. F.
Laugdon, Hartford, Conn.; J. B. Frost, J.
L. Greason, M. Ward Smith, of Brooklyn.

WORMLEY'S-A. E. Smith, A. Magill, Walter Sparks, C. H. Prindle, Robert Shakelbach, J. H. Duffy and J. F. Carroll, New York. CHAMBERLIN'S -- H. W. Combs. W. Davis.

CHANDRILIN'S—H. W. Combs. W. Davis. General Trimble Davidson, Vernon K. Stovenson, New York.

HOTEL NORMANDIE—Mr. and Miss Van Volkenburgh, New York; Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Demis, Coldwater, Mich.

HOTEL RANDALL—E. Young, Fetherstons, Md., William Derrick, New York; E. A. Petil, New York.

St. JAMES—N. M. Bell, New York; J. G. Banning, Philadelphia; F. P. Wilsen, Brocklyn; J. K. Brown, Columbus, Ohio. Howard, House—S. H. Rugrels, New Howarn House-S. H. Ruggels, New York; H. A. Colt, Philadelphia. AMERICAN HOUSE-C. E. Jinkins, New York; J. Hustand, Mt. Morris, Ill.

Harris House,-H. K. Williams, New York; J. E. Frost, Watkins, N. Y.

HOTEL JOHNSON-H. E. Rees, Atlanta, Ga., C. W. Wilder, New York; G. M. Lane and wife. Richmond, Va. Wrecked the House With Dynamite, BREMEN, Feb. 22.—A brickinger named Seidl brade an unsuccessful attempt to shoot his landlady. He ansequently wrecked the house with dynamite, killing both the woman and himself.